

In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A program product for use by an access point in a wireless communications environment wherein multiple channels are available for communication, the program product comprising a computer readable medium having embodied therein a computer program for storing data, the computer program comprising:

logic that selects a channel on which to provide service to at least one wireless device including:

logic for sending at least one message indicative of a claim to the selected channel
messages to other devices;

logic operative such that if no message indicative of a claim to the selected
channel is received from another device, commencing operation on the selected channel, and if a
message indicative of a claim to the selected channel is received from another device, thereby
indicating conflict, resolving the conflict by at least one of:

selecting a different channel on which to provide service, and

reducing transmission power; and

logic for receiving claim messages from other devices;

logic for using the claim messages it sends and receives to select a channel on
which to communicate;

logic that determines which wireless devices become associated with the access point
including:

logic for periodically sending a message ~~Announce messages to other wireless~~
~~devices to indicate the access point's presence and its protocol capability of the access point to~~
~~the other devices;~~

logic for receiving ~~Bid messages from other wireless devices, messages indicative~~
~~of requests to become associated with the access point wherein a device sends a Bid message to a~~
~~the access point to indicate that the device desires to communicate in the wireless~~
~~communications environment via the access point;~~

logic for selecting a subset of the wireless devices from which a message was
received indicative of a request to become associated with the access point, thereby rejecting
some of the requests to become associated; and

logic for sending a ~~an Accept~~ message to a each selected wireless device in response to a ~~Bid~~ message to indicate that the access point will allow the selected device to communicate in the wireless communications environment via the access point.

2. (currently amended) The program product of claim 1 further comprising:

logic for receiving a registration request ~~message messages~~ from a wireless device ~~devices~~, wherein a the wireless device sends a the registration request message to the access point to indicate that the device desires to communicate in the wireless communications environment via the access point using a particular protocol; and

logic for sending a registration acknowledge ~~message messages~~ to the wireless device ~~which sent the registration request message devices~~, wherein the access point sends the registration acknowledge message ~~a Registration acknowledge message to a device in response to a Registration Request message~~, to indicate that the access point understands that the device will communicate in the wireless communications environment using the particular protocol ~~Dynamic Radio Control Protocol~~.

3. (currently amended) The program product of claim 1 wherein a ~~Bid~~ message indicative of a request to become associated with the access point is sent by a wireless device to the access point if the wireless device ascertains that the access point is likely to provide better wireless communications performance than another access point through which the wireless device is currently communicating.